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Imagery analysis report

Iraq/Iran Military Summary

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IRAQ/IRAN MILITARY SUMMARY,

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1. (S/D) This report updates the most recent¹ in a series of imagery-derived reports on the Iraq/Iran conflict and covers the period from [] This report discusses deployed ground forces in the forward areas, rear garrison units (Figure 1), airfields, naval bases, commercial shipping, POL facilities, and related activity in Jordan. Military unit designators and subordination (where used) are derived from collateral sources.² Acronyms and abbreviations are defined in a glossary at the end of the report. Additional reports will be issued as the situation changes.

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OVERVIEW

2. (S/D) Imagery of the forward areas of conflict during the reporting period showed that the Iraqis still controlled the city of Khorramshahr north of the Karun River. The Iranians still controlled Abadan; however, elements of an Iraqi tank brigade and mechanized infantry brigade have now been confirmed north and east of the city. Heavy fighting continued northwest of Ahvaz at Susangerd. The Iranians still controlled the town, but Iraqi forces had reached the northwest outskirts by [] The Iranians still controlled Ahvaz; however, there was some repositioning of the Iraqi forces, possibly in support of the Susangerd offensive. In addition, flooding was observed north-northwest of Ahvaz. The conflict area around Dezful was not imaged.

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4. (S/D) Five Iraqi and eight Iranian area garrisons/facilities were imaged. Road construction equipment was observed in the Al Basrah area.

5. (S/D) One Iraqi and ten Iranian airfields were imaged. New damage was observed at one Iranian airfield.

6. (S/D) Naval activity was seen at one Iraqi and two Iranian naval/port facilities.

7. (S/D) Seventeen Iraqi and five Iranian POL-related facilities were imaged. New damage was seen at one Iraqi and two Iranian facilities.

8. (S/D) Related activity included heavy vehicular activity at the Iraqi/Turkish border transshipment point at Zakhu. The Iranian/Turkish border transshipment point at Bazargan was also imaged. Iraqi, Soviet, and Cuban merchant ships were observed in possibly related activity in Jordan.

GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY**Iraq/Iran Forward Areas****Khorramshahr/Abadan Area**

9. (S/D) Iraqi forces remained in control of Khorramshahr north of the Karun River on [] (Figure 2). No additional damage was discernible to the bridge over the Karun River linking Khorramshahr and Abadan. Two sections of a ponton bridge linking Iraq to Jazireh Umm Al Khasasie Island in the Shatt Al Arab River opposite Khorramshahr had been destroyed by []

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10. (S/D) Iraqi units observed on the west bank of the Shatt Al Arab opposite Abadan on [] included one FA battalion and two AA batteries 4 nm southwest of the city, one FA battalion and one AA battery 5 nm south-southwest of Abadan, and two probable FA batteries 6 nm south-southwest of Abadan.

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11. (S/D) The Iraqi armor brigade, two mechanized infantry battalions, and support units north and east of Abadan on [] appeared to still be present through haze on [] Additional Iraqi units observed 5 nm east of Abadan in a previously unimaged area included one tank battalion and one mechanized infantry battalion. Four FA batteries were also seen 5 nm north and north-northeast of Abadan. An artillery battalion and two AA batteries remained 8.5 nm north of Abadan. These additional units indicate that a mechanized infantry brigade has reinforced the previously reported armor brigade since []

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12. (S/D) Iranian units observed in the Abadan area included two possible infantry units on the northern and eastern outskirts of the city. Two FA batteries, each with an AA battery, were observed 6 nm and 13.5 nm southeast of Abadan.

13. (S/D) Iraqi units remained 12.5 nm north-northeast of Abadan at the Dar Khuyn Brigade Area [] in the vicinity of Salmeniyeh, Iran, on [] A PMP heavy ponton bridge spanned the Karun River 12 nm north-northeast of Abadan at 30-33-27N 048-20-13E (Figure 3). A tank platoon, mechanized infantry platoon, artillery battery, and a nondivisional engineer unit were seen deployed on the west bank of the river. The engineer unit included four GSP amphibious ferries and two K-61 tracked amphibians. A tank company and mechanized infantry company were on the east bank of the river. A tank platoon, a mechanized infantry company, and two artillery batteries were 19 nm north-northeast of Abadan. In addition, at least nine breaks were observed in the pipeline (one on fire with heavy smoke) between Abadan and Ahvaz in the vicinity of Salmeniyeh, Iran.

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SECRET**Ahvaz Area**

14. (S/D) The Ahvaz area was observed on [] (Figure 4). 25X1
15. (S/D) Iraqi forces advancing toward Susangerd from the northwest consisting of two tank battalions, one mechanized infantry battalion, one mechanized infantry company, one FA battalion, and one FA battery had reached the outskirts of the city by []. The area occupied by an Iraqi force 6 nm northwest of Susangerd on [] was not imaged during the reporting period. A second Iraqi force consisting on one tank brigade, one mechanized infantry battalion, and an AA battalion was 7 nm southeast of Susangerd on []. 25X1
25X1
25X1
16. (S/D) Iranian forces defending the Susangerd area consisted of one tank battalion, one tank platoon, one mechanized infantry battalion, and one company-sized unit of tanks and APC. Four possible AB-214 helicopters were observed with these Iranian forces. One appeared to be airborne and three were on the ground. The area occupied by an Iranian force north of Susangerd on [] was not imaged during the reporting period. 25X1
17. (S/D) Iraqi ground forces remained deployed from 9 to 17 nm west and southwest of Ahvaz on []. Major elements of an Iraqi tank brigade, previously reported as a mechanized infantry brigade, remained deployed 9 nm west and southwest of the city. Two tank battalions of the Iraqi tank brigade, 11 nm west of Ahvaz, were still present. One tank battalion and two AA batteries, previously reported with the brigade on [] had departed. These units may have moved northwest toward the Susangerd area. Also in this brigade area, a dike along the east bank of the Rudkhaneh-Ye Karkheh Kur, a tributary of the Karkheh River, had broken between []. This break, 11.4 nm northwest of Ahvaz, combined with higher water levels in the tributary caused flooding in the area. An Iraqi tank battalion deployed in this area had constructed an earthen dike along the northern edge of its deployment area as protection against the rising water (Figure 5). 25X1
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18. (S/D) Farther to the rear, two FA battalions-minus with two AA batteries and a probable division-level CP remained 17 nm west of Ahvaz. One FA battalion-plus and an AA battalion were deployed 14 nm southwest of Ahvaz.
19. (S/D) Iranian ground forces deployed in defense of Ahvaz were reinforced by two tank companies and a mechanized infantry battalion between []. The Iranian force included one tank battalion, two tank platoons, one mechanized infantry battalion, one mechanized infantry company, one mechanized infantry platoon, and two M-109 SP gun batteries. The mechanized infantry platoon 12 nm west-northwest of Ahvaz may be part of a larger Iranian force which was not imaged. 25X1
20. (S/D) No change was observed on partial coverage of Ahvaz Barracks Storage Depot Brigade and Division Headquarters []. 25X1
21. (S/D) A causeway was observed under construction across the Rud-E Karun River, 7.4 nm southwest of Ahvaz, on [] (Figure 6). The causeway extends from the east bank of the river to a sandbar near the west bank. Construction equipment was observed on the causeway. 25X1

Dezful Area

22. (S/D) The only forces in the Dezful area imaged during this reporting period were elements of an Iraqi tank platoon and an Iraqi field logistics supply point 50 nm southwest of Dezful at the Buzurgan Oilfield on []. 25X1

Rear Area**Iraq**

23. (S/D) Two mechanized infantry companies and elements of one SA-6 battalion were observed deployed at Basrah East Bank Deployment Area []. 25X1
24. (S/D) A large concentration of road construction equipment including at least 25 road graders, 25 bulldozers, and at least 100 pieces of equipment/vehicles was observed 6 nm southeast of Al Basrah on []. One mechanized infantry platoon was dispersed in revetments immediately southeast of the construction equipment area. This equipment may have been used for the reported road construction in Iran by the Iraqis for resupply purposes. 25X1
25. (S/D) Two tent camps with 128 and 47 tents, respectively, were observed at athletic fields in Al Basrah on []. 25X1
26. (S/D) Support vehicles remained dispersed in revetments throughout Sulaymaniyah Barracks and Ammunition Depot [] on partially cloud-covered imagery of []. 25X1
27. (S/D) Support vehicles were still dispersed in revetments throughout Sayyid Sadiq Military Camp (BE [] 26 nm southeast of As Sulaymaniyah on []. 25X1.1

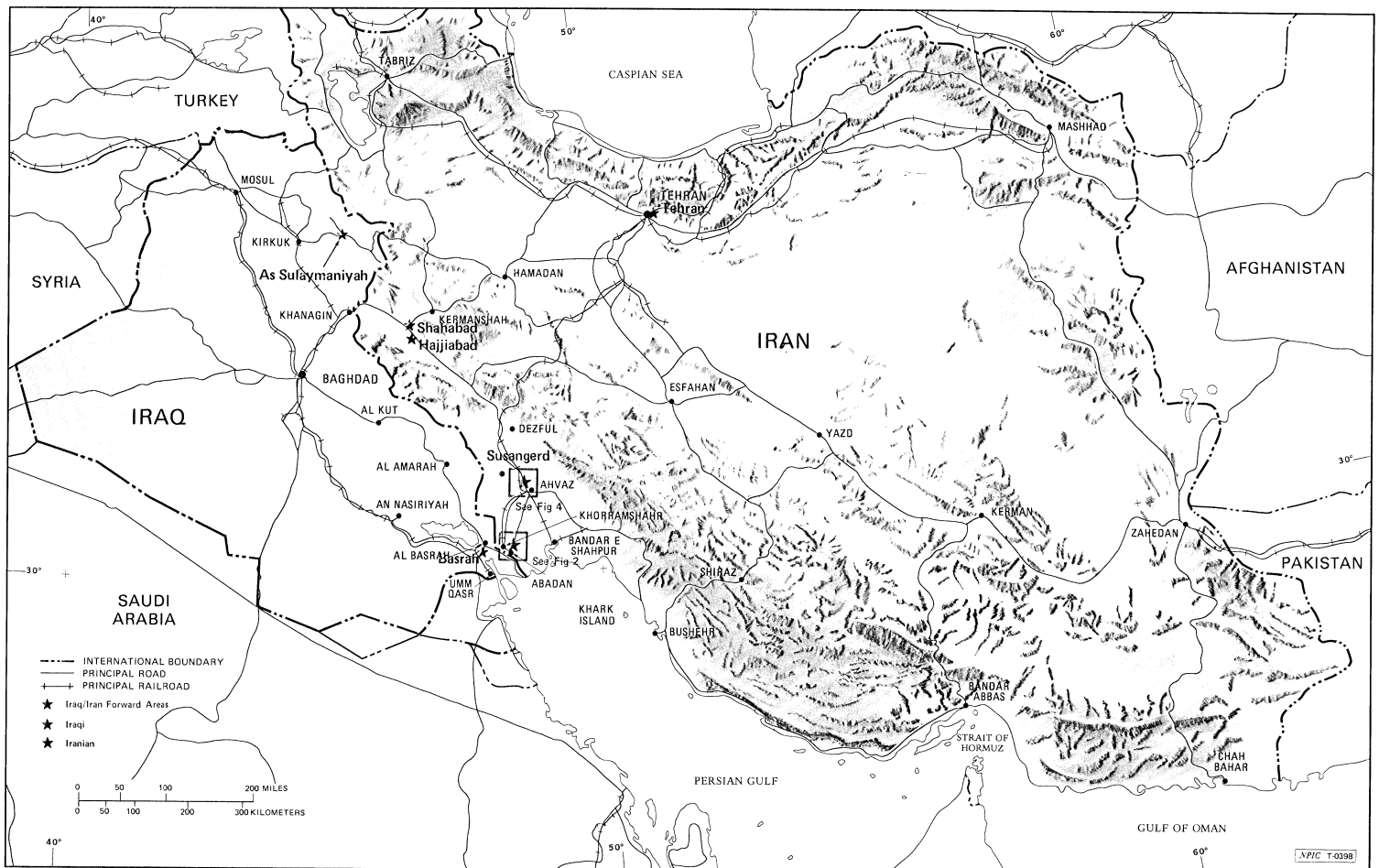


FIGURE 1. IRAQI/IRANIAN GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY



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SECRET**Iran**

28. (S/D) One BMP-equipped mechanized infantry battalion departed from Shahabad Barracks Depot and Brigade Headquarters () At least 22 M-60A1 tanks remained in the garrison maintenance area, and approximately 25 BTR-50 APC were dispersed throughout the installation on () In addition, at least five M-47 tanks, previously reported as probable derelicts on () had been moved from their usual parking area to the maintenance area. Two companies of the M-60A1-equipped tank battalion, major elements of two BMP-equipped mechanized infantry battalions, and probably the M-109A1 SP howitzer battalion were still absent. Approximately 50 vehicle revetments had been prepared; 47 of these had been completed since () 25X1
29. (S/D) Major elements of two tank battalions, one mechanized infantry battalion, and one M-109 SP artillery battalion remained out of garrison at Hajjiabad Barracks and Brigade Headquarters () 25X1
 () The two BTR-50 APC observed on transporters in the barracks area on () 25X1
 () were no longer present. 25X1
30. (S/D) Major elements of the armor brigade remained out of garrison at Tehran Barracks and Brigade Headquarters Lavizan () One Jet Ranger helicopter arrived at the facility between () 25X1
 () Ten Chieftan tanks, 13 BTR-60 APC, numerous support vehicles, four AB-214 helicopters, and three Jet Rangers were observed at this facility on () 25X1
31. (S/D) No unusual activity or changes were observed at five additional ground forces installations in Tehran on () 25X1

AIR ACTIVITY

32. (S/D) One Iraqi airfield and ten Iranian airfields were imaged during the reporting period (Figure 7). Minor damage was observed at one Iranian airfield. No new damage was observed at the Iraqi airfield.

Iraq

33. (S/D) No significant change was observed at K-1 Airfield () 25X1

Iran

34. (S/D) Two airfields near the Iranian/USSR border, three airfields in the Tehran area, and five airfields along the southern coast of Iran were imaged between () One new bomb crater was observed on a road parallel to the runways at Tabriz Airfield () In addition, three support buildings, possibly damaged in earlier attacks, were being renovated. One small straight-wing aircraft and one van were parked on the crossover link at the east edge of Manzarīyeh Airfield () 25X1
 () aircraft were not usually seen at this airfield. No significant change was observed at the following airfields. 25X1

Abadan International Airfield () 25X1
 Tehran Doshan/Tappeh Airfield () 25X1
 Semnan New Airfield () 25X1
 Bandar Abbas International Airfield () 25X1
 Jask Airfield () 25X1
 Chah Bahar AB Airfield () 25X1
 Chah Bahar Airfield () 25X1
 Kapkan Airfield () 25X1

NAVAL ACTIVITY**Iraq**

35. (S/D) No battle damage was observed at Al Basrah Naval Base () 25X1
 () One Osa PTG, three P-6 PT, one T-43 MSF, and three Yevgenya MSI were observed at the base on () 25X1
 () The T-43 MSF had been moved from midriver to the quay between () 25X1
 () Two SO-1 PCS, two Polnocny LSM, and one Split-B AX were moored nearby in midriver. 25X1
 Two additional P-6 PT were seen at a quay 2 nm upriver from the naval base.

Iran

36. (S/D) Khosrowabad Naval Base Supply and Repair Facility () does not appear to have sustained any damage between the beginning of the war and () 25X1
 Three probable Winches-ter PBA/PCFA were present on () 25X1

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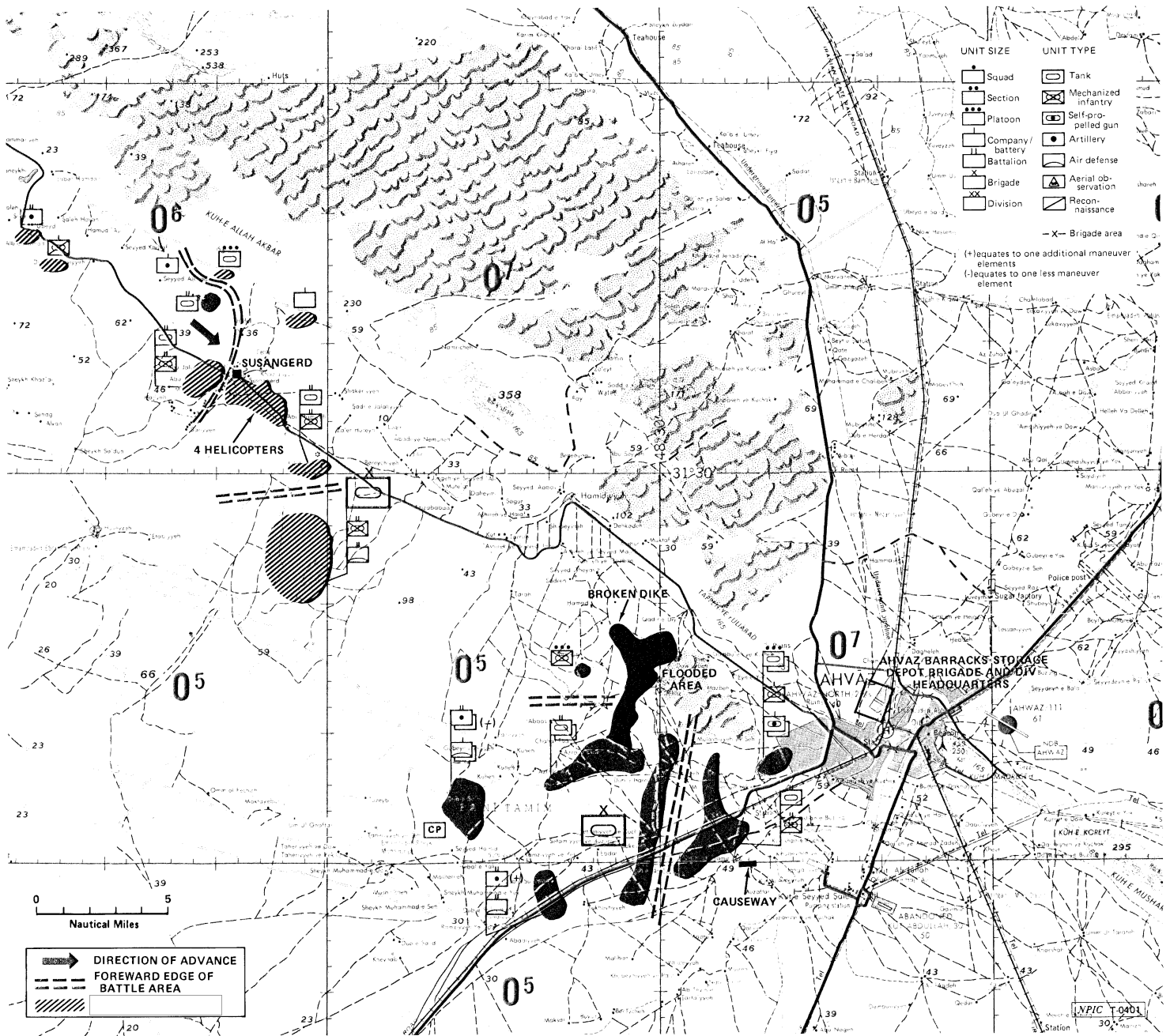


FIGURE 4. GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY, AHVAZ AREA, IRAN, ON

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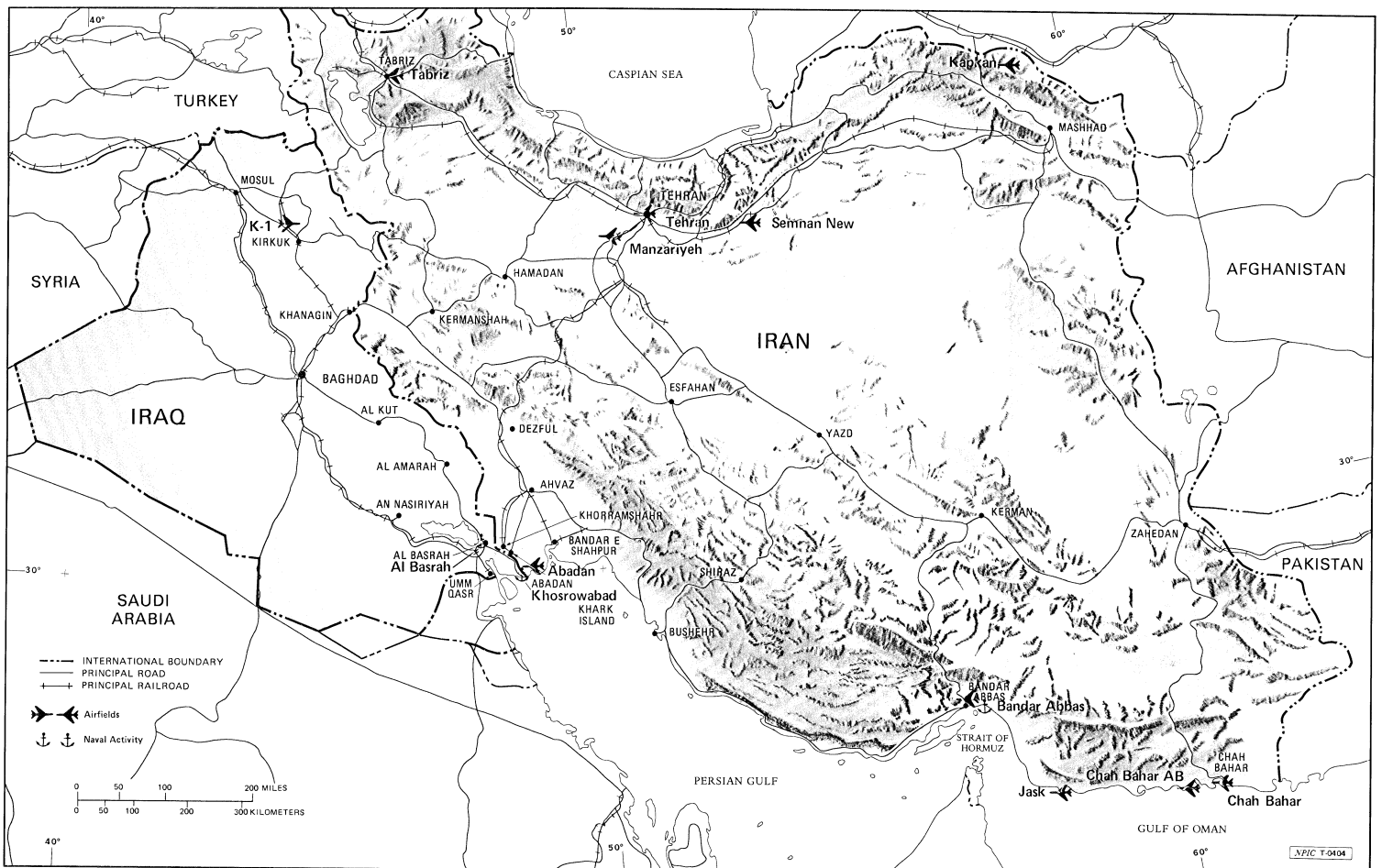


FIGURE 7. IRAQI/IRANIAN AIR AND NAVAL FACILITIES

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COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

Shatt Al Arab

37. (S/D) Three areas along the Shatt Al Arab were imaged during the reporting period. The area from 30-23-00N 048-10-30E to 30-04-10N 048-26-20E including Abadan Port Facilities [] Iran, was imaged on []. No additional battle damage to the port was observed. One coastal/small freighter had departed the quay between []. One bulk carrier, one freighter, two tankers, 19 coastal/small freighters, and two ARD-D remained in midriver. One of the ARD-D remained low in the water near the port, one coastal/small freighter remained low in the water 1 nm north of the port, and nine coastal/small freighters remained low in water 1 nm southeast of the port. The vessels were observed in the same positions on both [].

38. (S/D) The area from 30-27-00N 048-05-15E to 30-23-45N 048-10-35E including Khorramshahr Port Facilities [], Iran, was imaged on []. No additional battle damage was observed at the port. Three freighters were at the quay on []. One of the freighters, moored in midriver on [], had been moved to a damaged area of the quay. Three freighters, seven coastal/ small freighters, and one ARD-D remained in midriver. The freighter which has been riding low in the water, perpendicular to and apparently blocking the channel, remained immediately south of the port. The coastal/small freighter which was alongside that ship on [] had been moved and was now moored in midriver near the port facilities. One coastal/small freighter remained low in the water 1 nm south of the port.

39. (S/D) The area from 30-27-00N 048-05-15E to 30-23-45N 048-10-25E including Al Basrah Port Facilities [], Iraq, was imaged on []. No battle damage was observed at the port. Between [] one freighter departed the quay and was moored in midriver 1 nm southeast of the port. Another freighter had been moved from along the quay to a position outboard of a freighter alongside the quay. A freighter which was moored 2 nm southeast of the port was moved to the quay between []. One mooring position remained open at the quay. Fourteen freighters (including one Leninskiy Komsomol), two container ships, one medium tanker, and two coastal/small freighters were observed at the quay. Seven freighters, one bulk carrier, and five coastal/small freighters were moored in midriver immediately south of the port.

Strait of Hormuz

40. (S/D) One Sumner DDG arrived and one Vosper MK-5 FFG (SAAM) departed from Bandar Abbas Port Facilities Suru []. Vessels in port on [] included one Battle DDG, two Sumner DDG, two Vosper MK-5 FFG (SAAM), two PGM-71 PGM, six MK-III PB, six PBR, two Hengham LST (one in drydock), three LCU (one in drydock), one Bandar Abbas AORL, two Kangan AWK, one Michaelangelo APB, one Amphion AR, and one ARD-T.

41. (S/D) Between [] one of the Kangan AWK had been repainted in two areas (Figure 8). The helicopter platform amidships had been painted over covering the landing area markings. In addition, the cranes had been painted a lighter color and were subsequently more noticeable.

42. (S/D) In addition to the reported naval activity, commercial ship activity was also observed at this port. Ten merchant ships and one tanker were in port, while three merchant ships were in a holding area in the Gulf, south of the harbor, on [].

POL FACILITIES

43. (S/D) Seventeen Iraqi facilities were observed—eight in the southeastern portion of the country, seven in Kirkuk, and two in Buzurgan (Figure 9). Five Iranian facilities were imaged—two in the southwestern portion of the country, one in Tabriz, one in Kermanshah, and one in Shiraz. New damage was observed at one Iraqi and two Iranian POL-related facilities during the reporting period.

Iraq

44. (S/D) One additional 76,405-barrel-capacity POL storage tank was observed with external fire damage but no apparent structural damage at the Northern Rumailah Central Gas Oil Separation Plant []. The damage to this tank occurred prior to [].

Iran

45. (S/D) One additional POL tank with a capacity of 140,000 barrels was destroyed, and three POL tanks were damaged at Abadan Petroleum Refinery NIOC []. This reduces the total capacity of the facility from the original 15,696, 376-barrel storage capacity to no more than 15,007,500 barrels. At least five POL tanks continued to burn and/or smolder. Much of the facility was obscured by smoke.

46. (S/D) One additional 77,500-barrel-capacity POL tank was destroyed, and one additional tank was damaged at Abadan Petroleum Product Storage and Pumping Station Transfer Iran 1 [].

between []. Two POL tanks were observed burning on []. The current storage capacity at this facility is at most 5,930,500 barrels—down from a prewar capability of 14,030,500 barrels. Smoke cover prevented a detailed analysis of the facility.

47. (S/D) No change in status was observed at the following facilities.

Iraq

Al Basrah Petroleum Refinery Muftiyah []	25X1
Ar Rumaylah Petroleum Storage and Pumping Station []	25X1
Buzurgan Gas Oil Separation Plant No 2 []	25X1
Buzurgan Gas Oil Separation Plant and Oilfield Plant Complex []	25X1
Hanjira Degassing Station []	25X1
Kirkuk Gas Absorption and Stabilization Plant North []	25X1
Kirkuk Petroleum Pumping Station and Storage K-1 []	25X1
Kirkuk Petroleum Refinery and Storage []	25X1
Northern Rumailah Gas Oil Separation Plant 2 []	25X1
Northern Rumailah Gas Oil Separation Plant No 4 []	25X1
Northern Rumailah Gas Oil Separation Plant No 5 []	25X1
Qutan Degassing Station []	25X1
Rumaila Oilfield Gas Oil Separation Plant 4 []	25X1
Rumaila Oilfield Pump Station 3 []	25X1
Sarulu Degassing Station []	25X1
Sarbashakh Degassing Station []	25X1

Iran

Kermanshah Petroleum Refinery NIOC []	25X1
Shiraz Petroleum Refinery []	25X1
Tabriz Petroleum Refinery []	

OTHER

	25X1
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Iraq

[]	25X1
[]	25X1

Iran

[]	25X1
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50. (S/D) No unusual activity was observed at the US Embassy, Tehran []

Jordan

	25X1
51. (S/D) A possible Iraqi merchant ship, three possible Soviet arms carriers, and six Cuban merchant ships were among the 35 merchant ships observed at Al Aqabah Port Facilities []	25X1
Jordan, on [] This is probably not a significant decrease from the 69 vessels observed in this area on [] because only half of the roadstead area was imaged on []	25X1
	25X1

52. (S/D) A possible Iraqi Poltava-class merchant ship was in a roadstead offloading cargo onto a lighter. The three possible Soviet arms carriers included a Murom, a Leninskiy Komsomol, and a Vyborg. The Murom-class arms carrier was offloading a possible KRAZ-type truck onto the quay (Figure 11). Additionally, three possible KRAZ-type trucks, 14 possible double-axled generator trailers, and four possible UAZ-69 vehicles were seen in an open storage area by the quay. On previous imagery of [] the Murom had been in the roadstead, and the vehicles were not in the storage area.

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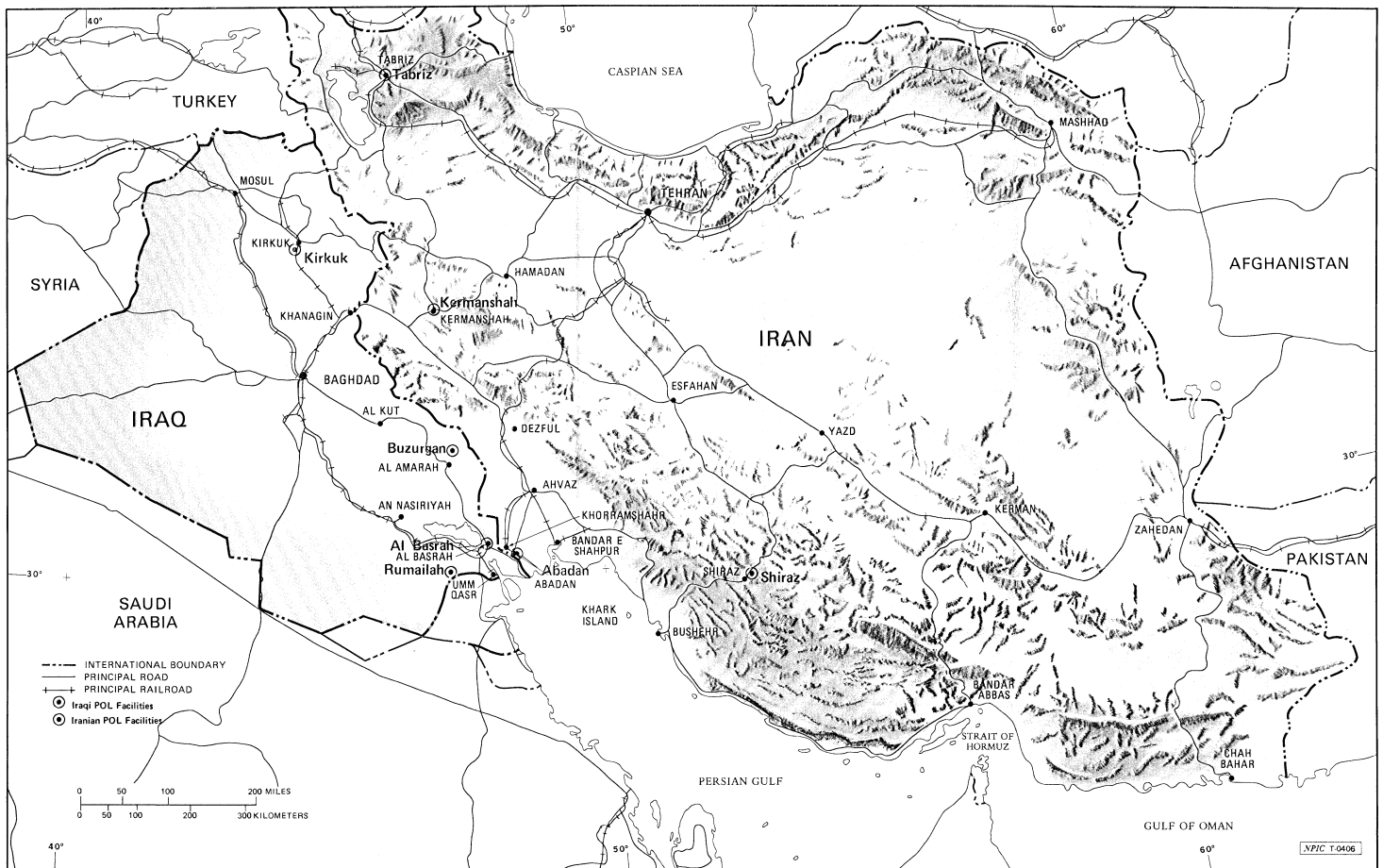


FIGURE 9. POL FACILITIES IN IRAQ AND IRAN

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GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

This glossary in its entirety is UNCLASSIFIED

AA	Antiaircraft	MSC	Coastal minesweeper
AAA	Antiaircraft artillery	MSF	Fleet minesweeper
AD	Air defense	MSI	Inshore minesweeper
AORI	Small replenishment oiler	NM	Nautical miles
APB	Barracks ship	PACV	Patrol air cushion vehicle
APC	Armored personnel carrier	PB	Patrol boat
AR	Repair ship	PBA/PCFA	Patrol boat air cushion
ARD-D	Floating drydock	PBR	River/roadstead patrol boat
ARD-T	Auxiliary repair dock	PCL	Small submarine chaser
AW	Air warning	PCS	Submarine chaser
AWK	Water carrier	PF	Patrol frigate
AX	Training ship	PGM	Motor gunboat
CP	Command post	PMP	Heavy folding ponton bridge
DD	Destroyer	POL	Petroleum, oil, and lubricant
DDG	Guided missile destroyer	PTG	Missile attack boat
DIW	Dead in the water	RTP	Rail-to-road transfer point
EW	Early warning	RO/RO	Roll-on/roll-off
FA	Field artillery	SAM	Surface-to-air missile
FFG	Guided missile frigate	SP	Self-propelled
LCMA	Air cushion medium landing craft	SPAA	Self-propelled antiaircraft
LCM	Medium landing craft	SPG	Self-propelled gun
LCU	Utility landing craft	SSM	Surface-to-surface missile
LSM	Medium amphibious assault landing ship	TEL	Transporter-erector-launcher
IST	Amphibious vehicle landing ship	TMM	Truck-mounted bridge
MRL	Multiple rocket launcher	VLCC	Very large crude carrier

REFERENCES

IMAGERY

(S/D) All applicable satellite imagery acquired from [] was used in the preparation of this report. 25X1

MAPS OR CHARTS

DoD. Joint Operations Graphics, Various Sheets (UNCLASSIFIED, Distribution Restricted)

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. Z-20184/80, IAR-0322/80, *Iraq/Iran Military Summary*, [] (S), 20 Nov 80 (SECRET/[]) 25X1
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[] 25X1

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to the South Asia/Arabia Branch, Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [] 25X1

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